

IN THE CLAIMS:

The pending claims are set forth below and have been amended and/or cancelled, without prejudice, where noted:

1. (Currently Amended) A method ~~of~~ preparing asphalt, comprising:
adding from 0.05 wt.% to 3.0 wt.% zinc oxide to asphalt ~~in an amount effective to reduce hydrogen sulfide (H₂S) emissions, wherein an amount of from greater than 0.05 wt.% to less than 3.0 wt.% of zinc oxide is added to the asphalt, and wherein the zinc oxide reduces hydrogen sulfide emissions; and~~
adding a crosslinker to the zinc oxide, the asphalt or combinations thereof,
wherein the crosslinker is selected from ~~comprised of~~ dithiocarbamates, ~~or is selected from the group consisting of an~~ alkyl polysulfides, ~~an~~ ester polysulfides, and mixtures thereof.
2. (Cancelled)
3. (Original) The method of claim 1 where the hydrogen sulfide emission is reduced to about 50 ppm or lower.
- 4-6. (Cancelled)
7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein at least one additional crosslinker is added and is selected from the group consisting of elemental sulfur, mercaptobenzothiazole (MBT), thiurams, mercaptobenzimidazole, dithiodimorpholine, and mixtures thereof.
8. (Cancelled)
9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 further comprised of adding aggregate to the asphalt.
- 10-29. (Cancelled)

30. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 where the hydrogen sulfide emission is reduced to about 10 ppm or lower.

31-32. (Cancelled)

33. (Previously Presented) An asphalt made by the method of claim 1.

34-38. (Cancelled)